

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 1-3, 10 and 12-14 and canceled claim 4 without prejudice. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the claims are supported by the application as originally filed and do not contain any new matter. In addition, for the reasons set forth in Remarks below, Applicant respectfully submits that they would not be properly rejected based upon the art of record in the parent application.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-14 and 16-19 under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Sakurai.

Applicant has carefully reviewed Sakurai and respectfully submits that contrary to the Examiner's opinion, in Sakurai resonance frequency data of a single kind of handpiece such as a handpiece for ultrasonic operation is only stored in the ROM and identification information which is unique to a particular handpiece is not recognized. In contrast thereto, in Applicant's invention unique identification information on each handpiece is stored so that any individual handpiece can be individually identified. Applicant respectfully submits that this information in Applicant's invention is quite different from the information on frequency and other parameters of the handpiece for ultrasonic operation disclosed in Sakurai.

The Examiner further states that Sakurai discloses that the ROM is connected to supply signals relating to the instrument connected to the main body and the main body decides which type of instrument is connected to execute appropriate control. However, Applicant respectfully submits that the signal supplied by Sakurai is mainly frequency information as is described in the specification and information other than the frequency information is not supplied. Still further, while the Examiner believes that Sakurai teaches that "each handpiece can be identified", Applicant respectfully submits that Sakurai merely teaches that "the frequency of each handpiece can be recognized". In contrast to Sakurai, in Applicant's invention, a water supply circuit, an air supply circuit and a power supply circuit are prepared in advance corresponding to the types of plural instrument bodies which are to be connected and after identification by circuit corresponding to the particular type of instrument, namely water supply circuit, air supply circuit and a power supply circuit, required for driving the identified instrument body is operated.

In addition to the above, in Applicant's invention the instrument having the above described identification functions is proposed as an instrument assembly, an adapter, a tube and a medical apparatus. In other words, the present invention can identify several types of

instruments with different functions and different objects such as an air turbine handpiece, a micro motor handpiece, a scaler, a photo polymerization device, a measuring device for a root canal, an intraoral camera, a pocket measuring device, etc. Moreover, a water supply circuit, an air supply circuit and a power supply circuit required for driving the identified instrument is selected and water, air and electricity are able to be selectively supplied to the identified instrument. Applicant respectfully submits that such a construction is not shown or suggested by Sakurai. In addition, with the construction of Sakurai only the frequency of ultrasonic vibration of the single handpiece and its parameter signal are generated and Sakurai is incapable of identifying plural types of instruments with various functions and objects and does not store such an identifying information.

In view of the above, therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that not only does Sakurai not show, teach or suggest Applicant's invention but also one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated from the teachings of Sakurai to make Applicant's invention. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-3, 5-14 and 16-19 are not obvious over Sakurai.

Applicant further respectfully and retroactively requests a three-month extension of time so as to respond to the Office Action. Please charge Deposit Account No. 11-1445 in the sum of \$950.00 as the fee.

In view of the above, therefore, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered as part of this RCE, favorably considered and the case passed to issue.

Please charge any additional costs incurred by or in order to implement this Amendment or required by any requests for extensions of time to KODA & ANDROLIA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 11-1445.

Respectfully submitted,
KODA & ANDROLIA

By:


William L. Androlia
Reg. No. 27,177

2029 Century Park East
Suite 1430
Los Angeles, CA 90067
Tel: (310) 277-1391
Fax: (310) 277-4118

Certificate of Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on December 16, 2003.

William L. Androlia

Name

12/16/2003

Signature

Date